



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

To: All Interested Parties
From: Christopher B. Epps, Chairman
Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission
Date: October 9, 2008
Re: Local Emergency Wireless Communication Interoperability

The Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission was created by the Governor and the Mississippi Legislature in 2005 to promote the efficient use of public resources to ensure that law enforcement personnel and essential public health and safety personnel have effective communications services available in emergency situations. The Commission is also charged by statute with the implementation of a statewide wireless communication system (the Mississippi Wireless Information Network or MSWIN).

One of our goals for this system is to enable interoperability between various wireless communication technologies at the local level. To this end, the Wireless Commission entertained a technical presentation on voice over internet protocol (IP) for local and statewide communications applications in open meeting on September 11, 2008. A subsequent discussion of this technology, as well as other potential local interoperability solutions, took place in the course of the Commission's October 2, 2008, meeting.

While we encourage interested parties and vendors to express their views on the subject of local interoperability, the Commission has not formally requested bids for a unified local interoperability solution or system at this time. If requests for proposals are eventually sought, the WCC will comply with the applicable purchasing statutes, regulations, and laws. In the meantime, all public entities are reminded that certain wireless communications purchases must comply with the WCC's Purchasing Guidelines and Procedures for Wireless Products and Services (available on the Commission's website: <http://www.wcc.ms.gov/mwcc/wireless.nsf/>).

The Mississippi Wireless Commission sincerely appreciates the support we have received from the emergency response community. We welcome the comments of any and all interested parties as we continue to work to achieve our common goals.

cc: Wireless Communication Commission